

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A bicycle component comprising:
an operator actuating member configured and arranged to be manually operated; and
a positioning mechanism mechanically coupled to said operator actuating member,
said positioning mechanism including
first and second members arranged and configured to such that one of the first
and second members undergoes reciprocating movement with respect to the
other of the first and second members and corresponding first and second
engagement surfaces of the first and second members selectively engage
each other in response to manual operation of said operator actuating
member, and
a buffering member mounted to at least one of said first and second members in
an area such that said buffering member is contacted between the first and
second engagement surfaces of said first and second members, respectively
when the first and second engagement surfaces move into abrupt
engagement with one another thereby cushioning impact between the first
and second members.
2. (Original) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein
said buffering member is a coating applied to at least one of said first and second
members and arranged to prevent direct contact between said first and second members.
3. (Original) The bicycle component according to claim 2, wherein
said coating includes an elastomeric material.
4. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein

at least one of said first and second members has a recess with said buffering member mounted therein, said buffering member extending out of said recess to prevent direct contact between said first and second members.

5. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 4, wherein said buffering member includes an elastomeric material.

6. (Original) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein said buffering member includes a shock absorbing material.

7. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein said buffering member includes a plurality of separate buffering elements.

8. (Previously Presented) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein

one of said first and second members of said positioning mechanism includes a ratchet member and the other of said first and second members includes a pawl configured to engage said ratchet member.

9. (Previously Presented) The bicycle component according to claim 8, wherein

said one of said first and second members with said ratchet member includes a winding member configured to receive an inner wire of a bicycle control cable, and

said pawl is operatively coupled to said operator actuating member to selectively release said winding member upon moving said operator actuating member.

10. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 1, wherein each of said first and second members of said positioning mechanism includes a link.

11. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 10, wherein one of said links has a chain guide coupled thereto.

12. (Withdrawn) The bicycle component according to claim 10, wherein one of said links has a pair of adjustment screws threadedly coupled thereto, and the other of said links has a pair of abutment surfaces arranged to selectively engage said adjustment screws.

13. (Previously Presented) A bicycle shift operating device comprising: an operator actuating member configured and arranged to be manually operated; a winding member configured to receive an inner wire of a bicycle control cable; and a positioning mechanism mechanically coupled to the operator actuating member to control rotational movement of the winding member in response to movement of the operator actuating member, the positioning mechanism including

- a ratchet member arranged to rotate with the winding member,
- a pawl configured to undergo pivotal movement and selectively engage the ratchet member to prevent rotation of the ratchet member in at least one rotational direction, and
- a buffering member mounted to at least one the ratchet member and the pawl in an area such that the buffering member is contacted between the ratchet member and the pawl thereby cushioning impact between the pawl and the ratchet member.

14. (Withdrawn) A bicycle derailleur comprising:

- a fixed member configured to be mounted to a bicycle;
- a linkage assembly having a pair of links pivotally coupled to the fixed member;
- a chain guide pivotally coupled to the links;
- a pair of adjustment screws configured and arranged to limit movement of the chain guide between two end positions; and
- a buffering member mounted to at least one the links in an area such that the buffering member contacts one of adjustment screws when the chain guide is in one of the end positions.